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IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all claims in the instant application with the listing below amending claims 1, 8-10, 25, 29, and 34-36 and canceling claim 7 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:
 - 2
 - 3 a plurality of core fibers forming a ~~[said lifting]~~ sling body;
 - 4
 - 5 a coating comprised of at least an isocyanate mixed with an amine forming
 - 6 polyurea;
 - 7
 - 8 a safety core bonded by said coating proximate to said plurality of core fibers.
 - 9 ends of said safety core are concealed within said coating;
 - 10
 - 11 said coating further comprising:
 - 12
 - 13 an initial layer of said coating that seals said plurality of core fibers from
 - 14 exposure to contaminants;
 - 15
 - 16 a plurality of additional layers applied to areas of said ~~[lifting]~~ sling body
 - 17 subject to high crush and shear forces; and
 - 18
 - 19 a final splatter layer of said coating applied along said ~~[lifting]~~ sling body,
 - 20 said final splatter layer creating a rugged textured non-slip grip exterior
 - 21 surface.
 - 22

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1 2. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating is selected from the group consisting of a polyurea elastomer, or a hybrid
3 polyurethane – polyurea elastomer.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating has an operational temperature range of –40 to 175 degrees Celsius.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating has a tensile strength in the range of up to 6,500 pounds per square inch, an
3 elongation range of up to 300 percent, and a tear resistance in the range of up to 600
4 pounds per linear inch.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 coating includes at least one of the following additives:

- 3
4 i) a catalyst;
5 ii) a stabilizer;
6 iii) a pigment;
7 iv) a fire retardant;
8 v) a static electricity reducing additive;
9 vi) an ultraviolet filtering additive; or
10 vii) a thermal cycling additive.

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1 6. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 plurality of core fibers include at least one of the following:

- 3
4 i) nylon;

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- 5 ii) polyester;
- 6 iii) a synthetic fiber;
- 7 iv) polypropylene;
- 8 v) wire rope;
- 9 vi) steel core;
- 10 vii) cordage rope;
- 11 viii) yarn;
- 12 ix) NOMAX;
- 13 x) KEVLAR; or
- 14 xi) chain.

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1 7. (Canceled)

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1 8. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core traverses said lifting sling.

3

1 9. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core is located, with respect to said plurality of core fibers, in at least one of the
3 following locations:

4

- 5 i) seam located;
- 6 ii) perimeter located; or
- 7 iii) centrally located.

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1 10. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1 [7], wherein said
2 safety core is interconnected with at least one of the following:

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